

Recent Montana Listings in the National Register of Historic Places

October 19, 2005: [John Hepburn Place](#), Emigrant, Park County

Because of the property's association with the Great Depression-era and post-World War Two Montana tourist industry, the John Hepburn Place is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion A. The property gains additional significance as an excellent representative example of a mid-20th century rural museum site with ancillary outbuildings. It still represents its origins as a roadside attraction associated with Yellowstone National Park. The property gains additional significance under Criterion C, for its associations with Rustic architecture. The 1950 Spartanette Tandem Travel Trailer reinforces the property's associations with recreation and is eligible under Criterion C as an excellent representative of that property type.

August 10, 2005: [Hecla Residence](#), 11 mi. W. of Glendale on Trapper Creek Rd. #188, Melrose vicinity

The Hecla Residence is associated with the development and settlement of Hecla City, an intrinsic part of the Hecla Mining District. The building is evocative of the establishment of the town of Hecla at the base of Lion Mountain that would not only serve to make the company more profitable, but also would allow workers and families to be separated from the rowdy atmosphere of Lion City one mile to the east. Henry Knippenberg, general manager of the Hecla Consolidated Mining Company, oversaw the construction of the Hecla townsite as not only part of his overall plan for the economic good of the company, but also as an extension of his moral code. The building is eligible for listing under criterion C as well, as an example of rustic log architecture common to mining camps.

August 10, 2005: [Gilpatrick--Root House](#), Helena, Lewis and Clark County

The residence is a lovely, modest building nestled into the fabric of the historic West Side neighborhood. Constructed in 1875, the building was one of the first to be built in the fashionable side of town. For fifty-six years, it was the home of Stephen and Luella Gilpatrick, two early settlers and influential residents of the area. For an additional decade, it was home to John Root, another pioneer of the area. Mr. Root's wife, Jennie, remained here for another twenty years after his death. These families represented the earliest periods of settlement in and around Helena. The masonry building transformed from a Victorian, single family residence in the late 19th century to a stuccoed cottage in the 1930s, and eventually, as was the trend in the neighborhood, was divided into apartments. It now stands again as a single-family residence.

July 20, 2005: [Toston Bridge](#), Toston, Broadwater County

The Toston Bridge is an excellent example of a multi-span riveted steel Warren through truss bridge. The bridge was built from standardized designs developed by the Montana State Highway Commission (SHC) in 1915 and adapted specifically for this site. The Toston Bridge is exemplary of the design and representative of the SHC's bridge-building programs from 1915 to 1941. The bridge was also associated with the agricultural development of the upper Missouri River valley as it provided access to the Northern Pacific Railway station at Toston for farmers and ranchers living on the west side of the river. The Toston Bridge was also an important meeting place for Toston's youth in the 1920s and 1930s and figures prominently in the community's appearance as it dominates Toston's business district.

June 9, 2005: [Abraham and Carrie Erb House](#), Laurel, Yellowstone County

As one of the first residences in Laurel, the Abraham and Carrie Erb home is representative of the earliest local settlement. Through the first half of the twentieth century, the house and the Erb family witnessed the development of the community from its earliest incarnations as a fledgling, optimistic railroad town through its growth into a petroleum-refining center. Through the years, the residence was home to the Erb family, whose own story is a representative of the settlers of Laurel, and the next generations that defined its identity.

June 1, 2005: [Gebo Barn](#), Fromberg vicinity, Carbon County

The Gebo Barn National Register nomination was paid for through the generosity of the **Montana Land Title Association Foundation**. Since its construction in 1909, the Gebo Barn has become a local landmark, perched solidly above the Clarks Fork River, enduring as the past model of "modern" barns and as a reminder of the boom years in Carbon County when coal mining and dry land farming brought population and prosperity to the Clarks Fork Valley. The massive building is a significant work of agricultural architecture associated with the boom years of settlement and natural resource development between 1909 and 1913. Additionally, the barn is an excellent example of the use of innovative building materials and techniques, new to agricultural architecture in the early twentieth century.

June 3, 2005: [Canyon Creek Charcoal Kilns](#), Glendale vicinity, Beaverhead County

The Canyon Creek Charcoal Kilns are associated with the Hecla Consolidated Mining Company's silver and lead smelting operations at Glendale, Montana, and illustrate the broad patterns of the mining frontier at the end of the nineteenth century. The kilns are directly associated with Henry Knippenberg, General Manager of the Hecla Consolidated Mining Company who directed the construction of the charcoal kilns. Knippenberg later represented Beaverhead County in Montana's Constitutional Convention, and six years later was elected to represent Beaverhead County at Montana's Fourth Legislative Session. In 1896 he was appointed one of three McKinley electors. The kilns exemplify charcoal production facilities used throughout the United States in the latter half of the nineteenth century, and are examples of architectural engineering that supported frontier industrial processes. Therefore, the Canyon Creek Charcoal Kilns are significant under Criteria A, B, and C.

May 10, 2005: [Joshua and Martha Armitage House](#), Helena, Lewis & Clark County

Located between bustling downtown Helena, and the State Capitol building, Jesse and Martha Armitage's two story, wood frame home was constructed in 1889, and is representative of the late 19th century homes built as Helena transitioned from a rough mining town to a refined state capital. Joshua "Jessie" Armitage was a real estate developer, who anticipated the city's growth on the east side of the city, away from the mining and commerce on Last Chance Gulch. The Armitage House embodies these patterns witnessed by the City of Helena during the late 1880s-1890s.

April 11, 2005: [LaPierre Barn](#), near Scobey, Daniels County

The LaPierre Barn is a gambrel-roofed barn constructed in 1910. Louis LaPierre, together with other French Canadians from Saskatchewan, was lured to the plains of Daniels County during the early 20th century by the promise of prosperity. Once settled, LaPierre worked quickly to prove up on a homestead and to initiate innovative farming techniques that he brought with him from Saskatchewan. His large barn, known locally as the "LaPierre Horse Hotel," is a testament to the large-scale, mechanized methods he followed using multiple teams of horses and threshing equipment to harvest huge quantities of grain.

April 11, 2005: [Three Valleys State Bank](#), Three Forks, Gallatin County

Located in downtown Three Forks, the Three Valleys State Bank has stood as an architectural landmark in the community since its construction in 1911. Lasting until 1923, the building reflects the rise of state banks during the 1910s and the spectacular period of failure by many small banks during the 1920s. The two story, stone and brick building features heavy Classical details and currently serves as home to the Headwaters Heritage Museum.

February 9, 2005: [Morgan-Case Homestead](#) near Phillipsburg, Granite County

The Morgan-Case Homestead is an excellent example of the small subsistence homesteads established in the forested valleys of western Montana. The founder, Annie Morgan, was a former slave rumored to have come West as a cook for General George A. Custer, leaving before the defeat of the 7th Cavalry at the Little Big Horn. She moved to Phillipsburg and was soon hired to nurse a man in the Rock Creek area. She started homestead life along Rock Creek in a log cabin, and in 1894, met Joseph Case, a Civil War veteran suffering typhoid that year. Case became Morgan's common law husband on the hundred-acre homestead, although the homestead entry for the land was not official until 1919, 5 years after her death.

January 5, 2005: [Baker Hotel](#), Baker, Fallon County

In an effort to encourage preservation-minded economic development in their community, the City of Baker initiated the listing of its **Baker Hotel**. Built across the street from the historic location of the town's railroad depot, the hotel is Baker's second oldest standing brick building and has anchored the town's commercial core since its construction in 1915. The building is significant for the ways it represents the architectural patterning and the early history of Baker.